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order that there may be "an arresting of the growing tendency toward cleavage between the best elements of both races, a lessening of contact between the worst, and a restraining of the forces which make for the negro's physical, mental, and moral degeneracy."

EDWIN S. TODD.

Mortality from cancer and other malignant tumors in the registration area of the United States, 1914. (Washington: Bureau of the Census. 1916. Pp. 212.)

Social Problems and Reforms

Constructive Rural Sociology. By JOHN M. GILLETTE. New edition, revised and enlarged. (New York: Sturgis and Walton Company. 1915. Pp. xiii, 301. \$1.60.)

This volume covers the entire field of rural sociology. Its particular task is "to take a full inventory of the facts and conditions of life in rural communities." In the first two chapters the author outlines the scope and meaning of the subject and distinguishes between the rural and urban community. The third chapter is devoted to an analysis of four types of rural communities resulting from the differentiating effects of environment: (1) pure agricultural type; (2) mixed-agricultural type; (3) frontier type; (4) backward communities. By the term "environment" is meant "not only the physical but also the occupational and historical conditions."

The movement of population from country to city is considered in the fourth chapter with exceptional clearness and accuracy. We are asked to note a distinction in the "fundamental" and "casual" influences incident to the drift of population to cities. Industrial and commercial aggregations are essential to the age, and in so far as the great population movement takes place in response to scientific and technological principles governing the growth of industry it cannot be prevented. On the other hand, the response to causal influences—social, cultural, vocational, and recreational—may be checked by setting up counter-attractions in the country.

In chapters 7, 8, 9, and 10 much matter has been incorporated which belongs to the field of agriculture and rural economics. This fact, however, does not detract from the usefulness of the book. The author's treatment of such topics as farm management and marketing, benefits of organization, improvement of transportation and commerce, the social aspects of land and labor, etc., constitutes some of the most suggestive portions of the volume.

The rest of the book is given over to a consideration of rural social institutions. A stirring plea is made for rural leadership—a leadership now so difficult to obtain because practically all of the students and graduates of agricultural colleges, normal schools, and universities settle in cities or semi-urban communities. There is little hope, in fact, that the product of the higher institutions can be retained in the country. Hence, “the task of securing this qualified leadership is gigantic and rural improvement, in view of its scarcity, almost appears as a remote dream.” The solution apparently rests in part in arousing farmers who are most successful in farm management to a sense of leadership. It is likewise imperative that rural institutions not only impart technical knowledge, but also infuse “ideals of heroism and attainment which are not foreign to the country and which will not have to be imported to the city to be realized.”

The author manifests thorough familiarity with the literature of his subject; and only in occasional instances does he rely on source materials rather than first-hand knowledge in handling his theme. As an example of the latter, under “Backward Communities” the discussion of mountain whites is descriptive of conditions which existed ten or twenty years ago rather than today. Mention of the rapid evolution taking place in this type of backward community would have atoned.

Professor Gillette has succeeded in supplying a good text for use in colleges or in agricultural and normal schools. A timely and interesting preface is written by George E. Vincent.

T. R. SNAVELY.

University of Virginia.

NEW BOOKS

ARMSTRONG, D. B., SCHNEIDER, F., and DUBLIN, L. I. *Methods of investigation in social and health problems: The necessity for health standards; some shortcomings of socio-sanitary investigations; the application of the statistical method to public health research.* (New York: Russell Sage Foundation. 1916. Pp. 24.)

ARONOVICI, C. *The social survey.* (Philadelphia: Harper Press. 1916. Pp. 255. \$1.25.)

This little volume is the first attempt to present in book form the purposes, scope, and methods of the social survey. For this reason, if for no other, it represents a significant development in the rapidly growing literature of community surveys. The book itself, as the author states in the preface, is an enlargement of his pamphlet *Knowing One's Own Community* published by the department of